

HELLO AGAIN

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A PERSONAL NOTE: Many thanks for the help and information so far in my research for revising my Network and Circulating show logs. I am combining the two logs with much more information including dates of **ALL** shows in circulation. Most network shows will now have exact dates on the air with sponsors, day and time. **BUT**, to do an effective job, I need to know what is available and more details on shows. I am looking for Radio Guides, Radio Mirrors, etc. I will reimburse any expenses. The project is approaching 300 pages of information. If anyone has a list of stations broadcasting **When Radio Was** with Art Fleming, I would appreciate a copy.

I have another supplement to my **Collector's List** (#171 - 181.) Just send a SASE. The complete list is \$3.00.

LUX LOG: I have just recently completely revised my log of **Lux Radio Theater** with many more guest stars. It is arranged chronologically and the cost is \$7.00. If you also want an alphabetical listing, the cost is \$9.00. If you buy a log and if you want to know what shows a particular performer was in, just send a SASE. If you don't buy a log and you wish to know this, send \$1.00 for each performer and a SASE.

CONVENTION 1990: Dates of our next convention are October 18 - 20, 1990 at the Holiday Inn - North, Newark, NJ. Details enclosed.

REMINISCING: From **April, 1971; Vol. 2 No. 4:** I have 92 subscribers now. Subscription rates will be \$2.00 a year. I am beginning to help collectors in dating shows and listing the correct titles. Plans are under way for my first network log - a listing of network shows with the correct broadcast dates...Why are programs off speed? If turntable is fast when originally transferring discs to tape, or if the tape recorder is slow, this would account for a fast program - the opposite being true for a slow one. From tape to tape, the same principal holds true...Roger Hill mentions the possibility of a more sophisticated magazine for radio buffs and state and local chapters of the Radio Historical Society, then run by Charlie Ingersoll. (Finally, the various clubs around the country are trying to get together; more on this later)...Plans are underway for a small northeastern OTR convention in the New Haven, Ct. area. Sal Trapani and I are planning this.

New Friends: *Alan Dobrey...*Don Fisher. Don was in broadcasting for about 15 years. He was with CBS, NBC and ABC. Don has a half hour prepared presentation on tape that he gives to civic groups...*Robert Monaco...*Jack Thompson...Dan Visco...Herb Wells...Dave Davies (Dave was manager of Radio Shack in Hamden at this time where I bought most of my blank tape). (If you know the whereabouts of those people with an asterisk, please let me know)...**Old Friends:** Bill Blalock mentions that early reels of tape came in 1250 feet and 650 feet (5-inch reels)...Ernie Hack is selling rubber stamps with radio nostalgia on them. (Does anyone still have these? I have 2 of them). Roger Hill is teaching a Broadcast Communications Course in San Francisco. From the looks of the syllabus, the students should be experts when they get through.

UNCLE DON - DID HE OR DIDN'T HE?

by James O'Neal

According to Ted Husing in his book "Ten Years Before the Mike" (1935), even though the New Yorker printed the story without names, as true, it never happened. But something like it did happen in Philadelphia in 1921. In those days there were at least 2 mikes in every studio - one for the announcer and one for the artist. At the announcer's table was a 3-way switch; down, it cut off the concert mike and threw in the announcer's; up, the concert mike was live and the announcer's was dead; a middle position killed both mikes. At the Philadelphia station was Uncle Whip, one of

radio's pioneer bedtime raconteurs, and he was an embittered man = telling little Johnnie to eat his spinach and little Betty not to bite her nails. One evening he reached the breaking point. He was at the announcer's table that day. At last he reached the blessed line: "Now, good night, children. Don't forget to eat your Malted Mush and be sure to tune in on Uncle Whip again tomorrow." With that he slammed the switch to turn off his mike so hard that it passed neutral and brought in the concert mike. Muttering to himself as he passed the concert mike, he informed the world in general, "I'm a bastard it this isn't one hell of a job for a he-man." He said this with his back to the mike and the broadcast was dim but it went out just the same. Considering that there were just a small number of receiving sets then, not too many listeners heard him. Yet it registered and has persisted in various versions to this day as radio's classic bad-break story.

RADIO IS ALIVE AND WELL: If you want to see Brace Beemer's white hat, silver spurs and black mask, come to the Oakland County Museum in Oxford, Michigan. Beemer lived on a 300-acre farm nearby until his death in 1965. Attorney Robert Bunting wants to erect a bronze equestrian statue in the village's park. Hopefully he will raise the \$65,000 it will cost... At the University of Denver you will find the memorabilia of Lowell Thomas including his entire radio scripts for 1930 to 1976. Phil Gauthier is unofficial curator of the mementos. Now they are stored and not available to the public. He would like to put up a museum.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED: *Nostalgia Digest*, Jun - Jul; interviews with Harriet and David Nelson...Aug - Sep; article on Fibber McGee and Molly tribute held this past spring; article on remotes and where the bands played...*The World of Yesterday*, Rt 3, Box 263-H, Waynesville, NC 28786. Their winter catalog has many western - related books for sale (Tom Mix, Hopalong Cassidy, many others)...*RCA Airwaves*, May; article on Lionel Barrymore and his performances of Ebenezer Scrooge...*NARA News*, Vol. XVIII No. 2, conclusion of part 3 of soap operas and the war; reviews of certain OTR shows by Jack French; article on 25 years of John Hickman's OTR show in Washington, DC; article on Basil Rathbone, the real Sherlock Holmes.. Milwaukee Club newsletter, June; article on Mel Blanc...*Metro Washington OTR Club Newsletter*, July - August, article by Ken Neal about Gene Autry, Roy Rogers and Tom Mix; article by Nick Williams about WLS's Singing cowboys...*SPERDVAC Radiogram*, July; articles about Michael Raffetto and the Denver Convention.

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES: The Museum of Broadcasting, 1 East 53 St., New York, NY 10022 has several booklets for sale. All are good reading. They also list shows in their archives relative to the books: *Museum of Broadcasting Classical Music Collection* by Tom DeLong and Briana Rose; 1987 (\$2.00); *The Metropolitan Opera: The Radio and Television Legacy*; 1986; (\$10.00); *Bob Hope: A Half Century in Radio and Television*; 1986 (\$7.00); *Orson Welles on the Air: The Radio Years 1928-1961* (\$7.00); *The Telephone Hour: A Retrospective*; 1990 (\$7.00)...Dave Holland has written a new book called *On Location in Lone Pine*. It is \$19.95 from The Holland House, 17142 Index St., Granada Hills, CA 91344. It is a pictorial guide to California's Alabama Hills, favorite movie location for over 70 years. See exactly where many movies were made.

LOGS: Ray Stanich, 173 Columbia Heights, Brooklyn, NY 11201 has more logs: Great Scenes from Great Plays (10/1/48 - 2/25/49) and Stars in the Air (revised); both for SASE; Radio Reader's Digest (9/13/42 - 6/3/48) for \$2.00.

ORGANIZATIONS AND CONVENTIONS: *The Cinnamon Bear*, written by Glanville and Elisabeth Heisch, first aired in 1937. If you would like to join the national Cinnamon Bear Fan Club, called the Cinnamon Bear Brigade, and receive their newsletter, please send \$1.00 and 2 postage stamps to Cinnamon Bear Brigade, c/o Carolyn Breen Kolibaba, 10419

NE Knott, Portland, OR 97220. The Brigade is the creation of Don Jensen, editor of The Kenosha News of Kenosha, Wisconsin and was formed in 1987 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first broadcast. **Various clubs** are getting together to organize The Old-time Radio Network. The main purpose is to unite club directors so that each may benefit from the experiences of others. Some clubs belonging already are SPERDVAC, RHAC, OTR Club, RCA, NARA, Cincinnati OTR Club, Golden Radio Buffs, Metro Washington OTR Club, ORCATS, ORCA. If your club is not here and you are interested in details, please write Dick King, 900 West Quincy, Englewood, CO 80110. The first newsletter was put out by Bob Burchett. The third annual Kate Smith convention, held at Lake Placid was a great success. Special guests included Peg Lynch, Eddie Bracken, Ezra Stone and Sheila Furtado appearing as Kate Smith; Re-created were Ethel and Albert; The Kate Smith Hour with The Aldrich Family.

CATALOGS AND NEW SHOWS: **Rusty Wolfe (RJR Enterprises)**, Box 21428, Chattanooga, TN 37421 sells reels and cassettes; some highlights from supplement 4 are Lum and Abner, Dennis Day, Jack Benny, Favorite Story. **BRC (Bob Burnham)** Box 2645, Livonia, MI 48151, **Audio Classics (Terry Salomonson)**, Box 1135, St. Charles, MO 63302 and **Aston's Adventures (Don Aston)**, 1301 No. Park Ave., Inglewood, CA 90302 have combined their supplements into one combined catalog. You still order from the appropriate person. Don's supplement contains new Benny, The Chase, Cloak and Dagger, Mr. I A Moto as well as movie serials from Republic Pictures on video. Terry's supplement contains the Old-time Radio Calendar, The Six Shooter, Top Secret, Arthur Godfrey, Stan Freberg. Bob's supplement contains The Silent Men, Our Miss Brooks, Nero Wolfe, Let George Do It, Dragnet. The Archive of Folk Culture, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, 10 First St., SE, Washington, DC 20540 has a list of radio-related field recordings and broadcasts involving archive of folk culture collections, personnel and radio projects. Of special interest are 34 16-inch discs of American School of the Air and Back Where I Came From, both with Alan Lomax. For information on listening or ordering, request a copy of A Guide to the Collections of Recorded Folk Music and Folklore in the library of Congress. **Tom Monroe (ORCA)**, USA branch, 2055 Elmwood Ave., Lakewood, OH 44107 mentions that more BBC shows are available. His organization probably has the largest collection of BBC shows available. He recently returned from England after visiting Barry Hill, president of The Old-time Radio Show Collectors' Association of England (ORCA). Some new shows include uncirculated Goon shows and many more episodes of The Archers.

YOU AND THE LAW: It appears that the Shadow Case of Premier Electronics vs. 9 defendants may go to trial. The plaintiff's demands range from \$10,000 to \$20,000 per defendant. A \$3000 offer was refused. Defendants are Larry Kiner, Don Aston, Pat McCoy, Bob Burnham, Howard Brenner, Carl Froelich, Jr., Rex Bills, Charles Garant and Dick Judge. Carolyn and Joe Senter are still collecting funds to help defray the 5-figure cost so far. **If you can contribute anything, please send it to OTR Defense Fund, c/o Carolyn and Joe Senter, 4003 Clifton Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45220.**

THE TAPE DECK: **Bob Burnham**, Box 2645, Livonia, MI 48151; (313) 721-6070 is selling 4 reel recorders in good working condition; 3 Teac A-2300S (3 machines) and Teac A-2300SX (one machine). They are \$275 each or \$250 each for 2 or more. They all have new or almost new heads, 3 motors, 3 heads, 7" reels, 3 3/4 and 7 1/2 i.p.s. speeds. First come, first serve.

NEW FRIENDS AND RETURNEES: **Michael Leannah**, 2910 West State St., Milwaukee, WI 53208...**W. F. Absher, Jr.**, 1002 J Street, North Wilkesboro, NC 28659.. **Howard Shayer**, 1204 Avenue "O", Brooklyn, NY 11229...**Tod Irzyk**, 1036 Victoria St.,

New Bedford, MA 02745. Tod interested in Crime Classics, Shadow, Gang Busters, Damon Runyon Theater...**Seymour Rush**, 94 Andrew Ave., Oakland, NJ 07436...**Joseph Abend**, 2175 Lemoine Ave, Suite 204, Fort Lee, NJ 07024...**David Comsky**, 9100 Wilshire Blvd., 8th Floor, East Tower, Beverly Hills, CA 90212...**Rory Gilfillan**, #5105 - 27 Grier Pl NE, Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2K 5Y5...**Alfred Gillen**, 13601 East Marina Dr. #606, Aurora, CO 80014 looking for all available episodes of Pete Kelly's Blues. He has six and I believe there are 7.. **Lawrence Rao**, c/o Harry Rao, 1213 East 88 St., Brooklyn, NY 11236 wants to sell 179 hours of OTR shows on cassette. He will only sell them as one lot for the best price. For a list of what he has please send him a SASE with 45 cents in stamps. Lawrence also has four cassettes of an odd radio series called The Phantom of the Movies. This is not vintage but was aired locally (WFMU - New York) during 1988. They hilariously spotlight B-schlock, monster films of the 1930's - 1960's. Write Lawrence if you are interested.

In the spirit of radio broadcasting from yesteryear, 21st Century Radio's Hieronimus and Company is tomorrow's radio as it was meant to be - entertainingly educational. With a sense of humor and an array of sound effects., **Dr. Bob and Zoh Hieronimus** interview the nation's experts in the unusual, the informative, the leading edge. For a catalog listing of programs on topics ranging from UFO's to the environment, natural cancer therapies to the search for Nessie and Bigfoot, send \$1.00 in stamps to **Catalog**, 3203 Hunting Tweed Dr., Owings Mills, MD 21117.. **Richard Nolette**, RR1 Box 1185, Kennebunkport, ME 04046...**Kayleen Sybrandt**, 3333 Morningside Rd., Wilmington, DE 19810. Kayleen is interested in Great Gildersleeve and Fibber McGee & Molly. She would like to hear from other fans of both shows...**Gary Rost**, 642 Front St., #203, St. Paul, MN 55103...**Jim Beshires**, 1111 Clairmont, #J-1, Decatur, GA 30030...**Patrick King**, Rt 6, Box 477, Waco, TX 76706 is researching a book on the definitive history of the Columbia Workshop (Radio and Television). If you have some expertise and can help, please write Patrick...**Pat Battle**, 100 Belmont Pl, #1E, Staten Island, NY 10301 wants any information about Conrad Veidt, including any shows he was on...**Jim Harmon**, 634 South Orchard Dr., Burbank, CA 91506. Jim has written several books on OTR has large selection of Video Movie Serials for sale. He has over 90% of all the serials ever made. Jim is also an authority on Tom Mix...If you want hard to get records, cylinders, cassettes, sheet music, etc. contact **Richard Gesner**, 33 Lowell St., Manchester NH 03101 (603) 644-0199...**Ron Turnnir**, 1807 Canberra Rd. NW, Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2L 0S3. Ron is especially interested in Bob and Ray.

OLD FRIENDS: **Charles Michelson** recently sold 13 Jack Benny shows to Australia for broadcast...**Bill Wakefield**, 2703 Cub Hill Rd., Baltimore, MD 21234; 301-668-2451 is still looking for scripts of comedy shows such as Jack Benny, FM & M, Charlie McCarthy, Aldrich Family. **Frank Tomaselli**, Box 112, Stones Throw Town Homes, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301 wants to know if Blackhawk Films is still in business and their address.

IN FOND MEMORY: **Josephine Gibson**, Apr 26, 86; host of women's show on radio from 1929 - 1936 on NBC...**Don Hughes**, May 2, 72; veteran of 24 years on Let's Pretend and it's predecessor, The Adventures of Helen and Mary. His last performance was at our convention in 1988 when he had the lead in the re-creation of Beauty and the Beast...**Elliott Lewis**, May 20, 72. Very successful radio actor, writer, producer and director. SPERDVAC Radiogram (June) has an excellent review of Elliott Lewis...**Michael Raffetto**, May 31, 91; well remembered on One Man's Family and I Love a Mystery...**Tom Brown**, Jun 3, 77; tv, radio and film actor...**Esther Broza**, Jun 4, 92; for 31 years produced, wrote and directed The Children's Hour on WCAU in Philadelphia...**Walter Bloch**, Jun 8, 74; actor in radio; writer for radio, theater, tv...**Joseph Hardy**, May 28, 71; actor who made many radio and tv commercials...**Howard Duff**, Jul 8, 76; best known on radio for his portrayal of Sam Spade from 1946 to 1950...**Bill Cullen**, Jul 7, 70; radio and tv gameshow host (Winner Take All; Fun